

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/02/16

Action: Be Adopted.

Meeting Dates: 02/02

Vote:

Yeas: 4 - Boquist, Burdick, Ferrioli, Rosenbaum

Exc: 1 - Beyer

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Congratulates Happy Canyon Indian Pageant and Wild West Show on its centennial anniversary.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of Happy Canyon Indian Pageant and Wild West Show
- Cultural and community significance of pageant
- Participation by tribal communities

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Happy Canyon Indian Pageant and Wild West Show, known as the “world’s most unique Indian pageant,” will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2016. The show depicts the settling of the American West, beginning with a portrayal of the Native American way of life prior to the arrival of the white man, continuing with the arrival of Lewis and Clark, followed by the prairie schooners of the pioneers on the Oregon Trail and concluding with a reenactment of a frontier town’s rollicking main street mishaps.

The Happy Canyon Indian Pageant and Wild West Show has been annually presented since 1916 by a cast of both Native Americans from many different area tribes and local community volunteer actors, who participate as a long-standing family tradition. For the past 100 years of its performance, tribal members unpack their family heirlooms and set up their tepees, to appear at Happy Canyon, with the children following in the footsteps of their elders without rehearsal or advanced direction. Tribal groups throughout the nation have representatives encamped during the week of the Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon. Sizeable delegations from the tribes of the Yakima, Colville, Spokane, Nez Perce, Coeur d’Alene, Shoshone, Bannock, Warm Springs, Paiute and Rock Creek participate in the events of the week.

Senate Resolution 201 congratulates Happy Canyon Indian Pageant and Wild West Show on its centennial anniversary.